


Environmental Protection and Compliance Division

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Symbol: EPC-DO-23-164

Date: June 6, 2023

LA-UR-23-24997

Mr. Ricardo Maestas, Acting Chief
 Hazardous Waste Bureau
 New Mexico Environment Department
 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
 Santa Fe, NM 87505-6313

Subject: Public Outreach on the Flanged Tritium Waste Containers Project, Los Alamos National Laboratory, EPA ID #NM0890010515

Dear Mr. Maestas:

This letter is in response to a recent request for a list of public outreach activities undertaken by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and our contractor, Triad National Security LLC (Triad) regarding the above-referenced project. This information supplements our Temporary Authorization Request for waste treatment, storage and repackaging under the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (EPA ID# NM0890010515). The request was submitted to the New Mexico Environment Department-Hazardous Waste Bureau (NMED-HWB) on March 9, 2020 (EPC-DO-20-074/LA-UR-20-22103). The Temporary Authorization Request is a one-time operation to vent and repack four Flanged Tritium Waste Containers (FTWCs) to prepare them for out-of-state transport and final disposition.

The following is a list of engagements (starting with the most recent) where NNSA and Triad provided information on the FTWCs project, solicited feedback, and offered to answer any questions. Additionally, information is available on the FTWCs website at: <https://environment.lanl.gov/ftwc/>.

Audience	Date	Description
Tewa Women United	March 8, 2023	Briefing
Santa Clara Pueblo in coordination with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6	November 10, 2022	Consultation
Pueblo de San Ildefonso	May 5, 2022	Site visit to Area G with discussion on the FTWCs

Audience	Date	Description
EPA Region 6	March 16, 2022	Overview of the FTWCs Supplemental Information provided at the EPA’s request. The following pueblos and tribes called in to the meeting: Santa Clara Pueblo, Tesuque Pueblo, Acoma Pueblo, Sandia Pueblo, Pueblo of Isleta del Sur (TX), Seneca-Cayuga Nation (OK), United Keetoowan Band of Cherokee (OK), Ottawa Tribe (OK), Muscogee Creek Nation (OK), Choctaw Nation (OK), Alabama Coushatta (TX), and Jemez Pueblo.
Pueblo of San Felipe, Department of Natural Resources	December 9, 2021	NNSA met with Pueblo of San Felipe Department of Natural Resources staff to discuss any NNSA related concerns, regarding the FTWCs project.
Eight Northern Indian Pueblo Council (ENIPC)	September 21, 2021	NNSA provided a project overview briefing and answered questions at the virtual ENIPC September Monthly Meeting.
Environmental Protection Agency Region 6, Regional Tribal Operations Committee (EPA Region 6 RTOC)	September 14, 2021	NNSA provided a status report on the FTWCs project and answered questions at the EPA Region 6 RTOC virtual monthly meeting, which includes federally recognized tribes located in New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Texas.
Accords Technical Exchange Meeting (ATEM)	September 8, 2021	NNSA provided an update on project status to the Accords environmental staff. The virtual ATEM meeting was hosted by NNSA and DOE Environmental Management (EM).
All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG)	August 26, 2021	NNSA provided a project overview briefing and answered questions at the virtual APCG August Monthly Meeting, which gathers all 20 Pueblo Governors.
New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)	August 25, 2021	Briefing to new upper management on the content of the Temporary Authorization Request and venting process described.
Email Notification to Pueblo Governors and staff	December 15, 2020	Sent email notification that provided a status update of the FTWCs project to nearby Pueblo Governors and staff.
EPA Region 6 Intertribal Resource Advisory Committee (IRAC)	November 19, 2020	NNSA provided an update on project status and answered questions at the virtual IRAC Annual Meeting.

Audience	Date	Description
Virtual Public Meeting No. 2	November 5, 2020	NNSA provided the same presentation from the Oct. 20 meeting. Questions submitted to Virtual Public Meeting No. 1 were answered and included in the FTWCs website. The meeting had 84 parties who logged or called in.
Virtual Public Meeting No. 1	October 20, 2020	NNSA provided a project overview presentation and answered questions on the FTWCs website. The meeting had 128 parties who logged or called in.
EPA Region 6 RTOC	October 6, 2020	NNSA provided a status report on the FTWCs project and answered questions at the EPA Region 6 RTOC virtual monthly meeting.
APCG	September 24, 2020	NNSA provided a briefing to all Pueblo Governors and answered questions at the virtual APCG September Monthly Meeting.
U.S. Senator Mike Bennett (D-Colorado) staffer	September 23, 2020	NNSA provided briefing to staff member via telephone.
Pueblo de San Ildefonso Governor Martinez	September 16, 2020	NNSA provided a status update briefing (virtual) to San Ildefonso Pueblo Governor Martinez and answered questions.
EPA Region 6 RTOC	September 1, 2020	NNSA provided a status report on the FTWCs project and answered questions at the virtual EPA Region 6 RTOC monthly meeting.
NMED Secretary James Kenney	August 6, 2020	Phone call.
EPA Region 6 Ken McQueen	July 29, 2020	Direct briefing or conference call.
Pueblo de San Ildefonso Governor Martinez	July 28, 2020	NNSA provided a direct briefing (virtual) to San Ildefonso Pueblo Governor Martinez and answered questions.
Los Alamos County Council	July 22, 2020	Direct briefing or conference call.
Los Alamos County Council	July 21, 2020	Direct briefing or conference call.
Pueblo of Santa Clara Governor Chavarria	July 21, 2020	NNSA provided a direct briefing (virtual) and answered questions.
EPA Region 6 RTOC	April 4, 2020	NNSA provided a presentation on the LANL Electronic Public Reading Room (EPRR) for the Air Quality permit at the virtual EPA Region 6 RTOC virtual monthly meeting.
Pueblo de San Ildefonso Governor Martinez	March 25, 2020	NNSA provided a direct briefing (virtual) and answered questions.

Audience	Date	Description
Los Alamos County Harry Burgess and Steven Lynne	March 24, 2020	Teleconference.
NMED-HWB Staff	February 20, 2020	Meeting and tour at the Weapons Engineering Tritium Facility to observe and discuss the planned process for the FTWCs project.

DOE/NNSA and Triad will not perform activities addressed in the Temporary Authorization Request until after the Readiness and Authorization activities are complete and the NMED-HWB approval is received. The formality of the readiness program is an important part of the rigorous process to ensure safe operations. When all required reviews are completed and approved, DOE/NNSA and Triad will formally communicate the intent to begin the operation to the NMED-HWB. Seasonal climate conditions do impact the safe conduct of the outdoor aspects of this project and the current goal is to perform the outdoor activities before the end of 2023.

If you have questions or comments regarding this submittal, please contact Kristen Honig (Triad) at (505) 500-6454 or by email at khonig@lanl.gov or Robert Gallegos (NNSA Los Alamos Field Office; NA-LA) at (208) 569-0377 or by email at robert.gallegos@nnsa.doe.gov.

Sincerely,

STEVEN STORY
(Affiliate)

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Steven L. Story
Acting Division Leader
Environmental Protection and Compliance Division
Triad National Security, LLC
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,

Robert A. Gallegos

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Robert A. Gallegos
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